

these on the 12th May 1857, disorder began and looting on the roads, and the people of Secundrabad began to live in fear of plundering, and yet they engaged Goojurs as guards for the defence of their houses and *Mohullahs*, and there were Goojurs placed as sowars and pcons, on guard at the *tahseel*. The *Cotwal* (*Kotwal*) and *Tahseeldar* went the rounds every night with the sowars and pcons. On the 19th May about 12 in the day, a mutinied regiment entered from the east, on whose arrival all the arrangements in the *thanah* and *tahseel* were disarranged. The Goojur sowars and pcons all fled. On the night of the same date, the Goojurs of Cheetee, Deotah, and Masowtah etc., made an attack on Bulandshahr. The carts loaded with *Kand* (*Khand*) etc. which were standing in the *gunj* of Secundrabad were looted by the Goojur *Chokidars* of the town, Sibha and Ramsahace etc., inhabitants of Khugooabas, and Nawal etc., inhabitants of Pempoor with Himnut their *Jamadar*.

#### ATTACK ON TOWN AND TAHSIL

After this, in the morning, the Goojurs of Khugooabas etc. made an attack on the town and *tahseel*. The weavers and butchers etc., came out to resist the attack and repulsed them, one or two of the Goojurs were killed and their coming and going into the town was stopped. The Goojurs now grew in all eager (*sic*, -eagerness) resolved to loot the town. At length the Goojurs of . . . . ., Mehseh, Hurnowtee, . . . . . (Mss. torn at this place) together, and on the 3rd May the Goojurs took the Girooas with them, set fire to the Guddeewalah and went on looting up to the Bazar Kallan and *Gunj*. Meanwhile the weavers and *Guddees*, and Hassen Buksh and Karim Buksh, *Resaldars*, and Ali Raza *Duffadar* with other Mussulmen, came out to oppose them and a fight ensued, in which seventy or eighty of Goojurs and Girooas, and three or four of the town, were killed, and Karim Buksh *Resaldar*, was wounded in the foot by a bullet. In consequence of this the Goojurs and Girooas became more intent on the loot of the town, and *Panchayuts* were held in the villages of Cheetee, Deotah,

The principal town of the pargana and tahsil of the same name lies on the Grand Trunk Road, at a distance of eleven miles west of Bulandshahr and 23 miles south-east of Delhi. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1893, p. 295).

make an attack on the town, one of whom, son of Mihtab of Khugooabas, was killed by the weavers, and Sahib Singh brother of Jhendoo zemindar of Nugla Nynsookh, was also killed, from which the Goojurs of the neighbourhood were to the utmost excited to plunder, and on the 23rd May 1857 the Girooas inhabiting Mahehsch, Bhonra<sup>1</sup>, and Weyr, assembled with four or five thousand men, and in conjunction with the Goojurs, attacked the town, plundered the Guddeewalah and Chanseewalah, and then the Bazaar Kullan (Bazar Kalan) the *Gunj* which is my property, and moreover set fire to several places, and about seventy men on the side of the Girooas were killed on the spot, in the struggle with the inhabitants of the town, on which the Goojurs and Girooas grew more intent on the destruction of the town. About this time, *Waleedad* who had come from Delhi having been made Subah, excited Bishun Singh, Bhagwant Singh, and Umrau Singh at Dadree, to plunder and excite disorder as two Goojurs had been killed in Secundrabad. The men of Khugooabas, and Jhendoo zemindar of Nugla Nynsookh, went to the 'Goojurs' villages, threw down their bugries, incited them all to disorder and assembled them in *Punchayat* at *(Tilbegumpoor)* and the Girooas and Ghalot (Gahlot) Rajpoots also were in the above *Punchayat*, and shared their designs, till at length they looted the weavers *Muhallah*, Chowdrywalah, Hurree, Kazeewalah, Bedwala etc. from the 31st May to the 3rd June, on various days plundering one *Muhallah* after they had done with the other and there was also great slaughter, and the men of the town became bewildered and began to run away to save their lives, and the rebels were so numerous that no one could fight or resist them. He heard that the ringleaders of the rebels in these disorders were the men of the villages mentioned below Umrau Singh of Katchreh, Hurdeo and Roop Ram of Bil, Mujlis zemindar of Loharlee<sup>2</sup>, and Indar and Bholoo of Masowtah, Kulloo zemindar of Cheetee, Sibba and Ram Sahae and Bhowra of Khugooabas, Meda and Bustee of Sownlee, Mulkee of Hirdey-

<sup>1</sup> Apparently Bhaunra, Pargana Shikarpur, Tahsil Budhana, District Muzaffarnagar—A large village near the western border of the pargana, at a distance of about seven miles north-west of Budhana between Sisauli and Kharar. (*District Gazetteers, Muzaffarnagar, Vol. III, 1903, p. 219*).

<sup>2</sup> Apparently Lohari, Pargana Thana Bhawan, Tahsil Kairana, District Muzaffarnagar—A large village on the eastern borders of the pargana, a

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*RUPEES SIXTEEN*

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Craigie subsequent to the outbreak; they were of course completely raw, badly mounted and worse armed having as little confidence themselves in their horses, as we had in the riders: their subsequent conduct showed what they were worth, and besides them we had the few men who accompanied us on our retreat from Boolundshuhur.

356.—On our arrival at Hauppur (Hapur), we heard the Sirmoor Battalion had reached Boolundshuhur, and we arrived early on the morning of the 26th. We found the posts and wire of the Telegraph had been entirely removed between Hauppur and Boolundshuhur, a distance of 20 miles.<sup>1</sup>

### BULANDSHAHR TREASURE CARRIED OFF TO DELHI

*Extract of a letter from W. Muir to J. Muir, dated Agra, 2nd June 1857.*

... While our communications with Meerut were closed, Bolundshuhur also fell, and its treasure was carried off to Dehli, but under what circumstances I am not fully cognisant. The Station has since been regained, and is occupied by Goorkha troops. The impression here is that the Meerut force has not been sufficiently active; so large a body of European troops to remain so long on the defensive under such circumstances is unintelligible: Rohtuck (Rohtak) has been also plundered from Dehli. Tidings have been received of the mutiny of the regiments at Nusseerabad, but without details. It is hoped that the treasury at Ajmere may have escaped. The Mozuffernugger Treasury also went; but in consequence of the attack, I believe, of robbers and not of mutineers.

Thus you will see that these treacherous sepoys have gained immense booty. From three to seven lacs of rupees were in the several treasuries.<sup>2</sup>

### OUTBREAK IN BULANDSHAHR DISTRICT

*Statement of Qazi Kamaluddin, Rais of Secundrabad (Sikandarabad).*

#### SIKANDARABAD IN CHAOS

The circumstances of the plunder of Secundrabad<sup>3</sup> are

<sup>1</sup> *Mutiny Narratives*, N. W. P. Agra, Meerut Division, pp. 50-54.

<sup>2</sup> Muir, William: *Records of the Intelligence Department of the Government of the North-West Provinces of India during the Mutiny of 1857*, Vol. I, p. 33.

<sup>3</sup> Sikandarabad—Pargana and Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—

23, 44, 45, 48, 51, 56, 59  
954

perhaps Fatteh) *zemindar* of Mundsseh, Umrau Singh of Kutehra, Namdar Khan of Andhel, Meda and Bustee of Saonlee (Sanwli), Sibha and Ramsahae Goojurs of Khugooabas, the *zemindars* of Mahcheh, the *zemindars* of Gurbureh, the *zemindars* of Hurnowtee, and... (not clear) and Mehssah, and Bhonra which are Girooa villages and the *zemindars* of Kalowndeh<sup>1</sup>, Nagla Samnah, Kownrah and Tahwur Ali Khan, were all engaged in this loot of Secundrabad. *In that there was no village of the Goojurs and Girooas, in the neighbourhood, which did not take part in this affair, I fled on the night of the 2nd June. I have nothing more to tell.*

#### VILLAGERS PARTICIPATE IN PLUNDERING

Apart from this, the villagers of Lalpoor on the road to Bulandshahur, Zaukabad, Kot, Chitehreh, and Chola<sup>2</sup> on the Trunk Road, committed robberies on the roads, and prevented travellers from coming and going.<sup>3</sup>

\* \* \*

*Statement of Munshi Lachhman Sarup—Rais of Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr.*

The circumstances of the plunder of the town of Secundrabad are these when the news of the mutiny of the sepoys at Meeruth (Meerut) had arrived on the 12th May the course of the Govt. post was stopped, and plundering began on all four sides of Secundrabad, on the road and paths, and Mr. G. D. Turnbull came to Secundrabad to make arrangements for stopping the plunder, engaged the Goojurs inhabiting Masow-

<sup>1</sup> *Kalaunda*, Pargana Dadri, Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village in the extreme south-east of the pargana, lying between Gesupur on the east, Jarcha on the north, and Chholas on the west, at a distance of eight miles north of Sikandarabad, with which it is connected by the unmetalled road leading to Jarcha. (*District Gazetteers, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 249*).

<sup>2</sup> *Chola*, Pargana and Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village on the old Grand Trunk Road, seven miles south-west from Bulandshahr and ten miles south-east from Sikandarabad. (*District Gazetteers, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 215*).

<sup>3</sup> Bulandshahr Collectorate Mutiny Basta.

NOTE—This document and the next two contain names of such places the spellings of which are mostly other than the current ones. Hence it has become difficult to standardize the spellings of the places as well as to identify them.

poor, Bunsee *zemindar* of Nugla Chumrao, Mungnee *zemindar* of Setlee, Jhendoo *zemindar* of Nugla Nynsookh, Futiah Goojur of Chaterch, Debi Singh *zemindar* of Mehseh, Hurbul and Khobee and Dildar, of Weyer, Chowdry Pir Buksh Khan of Tilbegumpoor, Zabteh Khan *zemindar* of Mundseh, and the *zemindars* of *mouzah* Kirourah, Chowdry Tahwur Ali Khan Raees of Gurhmukhtesar<sup>1</sup>, Chowlas<sup>2</sup>, Jurchah (Jarcha), Kalowndeh, Paraseh, Nugla Samanah etc. and the *Chokidars* of the town, and Kuddum (Kadam) Goojur of Pempoor were all concerned in the loot and the Goojurs and Girooas of all the other villages were rebels and sharers in the above loot. The Kaithwalah, Shekhzadah *Muhallahs*, Khuttreewalah, half of the Bhatwalah, and half Ram Poora, had escaped plunder as yet. When the people of the town had no longer any power to resist, and they were weakened by the desertion of the other *Muhallahs*, and they had got no more powder, and the numbers of the rebels increased every day, and no one dared to oppose them any more, then all the people in the *Muhallahs* agreed that it would be best if by giving the rebels something the property that remained could be saved. Accordingly the people of the Khuttreewalah and Bhatwalah *Muhallahs*, gave money to the Goojurs of Nizampoor<sup>3</sup> and Cheetee and Deotah in hopes of saving themselves; in like manner the people of *Muhallah* Kaithwalah, assembled at the Gunga Munder (Ganga Mandir) and asked protection from Dulsep *zemindar* of Deotah and Sameh Muiuddin of Gurhee etc., and the Goojurs

short distance north of the road from Muzaffarnagar to Thana Bhawan at a distance of about three miles from the latter and 17 miles from Muzaffarnagar. (*District Gazetteers*, Muzaffarnagar, Vol. III, 1903, p. 290).

<sup>1</sup> Garhmuktesar, Pargana Garhmuktesar, Tahsil Hapur, District Meerut—The capital of the pargana is situated in latitude  $28^{\circ} 47'$  north and longitude  $78^{\circ} 6'$  east, on the right bank of the Ganges. It is connected with Meerut by a metalled road 28 miles in length. Another metalled road leads to Hapur, a distance of 21 miles and Delhi, 58 miles. (*District Gazetteers*, Meerut, Vol. IV, 1922, p. 224).

<sup>2</sup> Chholas, Pargana Dadri, Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village in the east of the Pargana, about 3 miles east of the Grand Trunk Road, 7 miles east of Dadri and 6 miles north of Sikandarabad. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 214).

<sup>3</sup> Nizampur, Pargana Garhmuktesar, Tahsil Hapur, District Meerut—A very small village, in latitude  $28^{\circ} 50'$  north and longitude  $78^{\circ} 2'$  east, on the metalled road from Meerut to Garhmuktesar, at a distance of 20 miles from the former. (*District Gazetteers*, Meerut, Vol. IV, 1922, p. 288).

tah, Cheetee, and Fureedpoor (Faridpur) etc. as sowars and  
 peons for the defence of the town, and the people of the town  
 also and the *zemindars*, who were well disposed, engaged *gilders*,  
 and in concert with the *Tahseeldar*, made arrangements for the  
 defence of the city and the servants of the Government, and the  
 newly engaged Goojurs went round, and the Goojurs above  
 mentioned were stationed to keep watch on all four sides of  
 the town, and at night Mr. Turnbull inspected the watch  
 throughout the town, and as the disorder was greatest in the  
 direction of Dadree (Dadri), Mr. Turnbull went that way and  
 at Budpoora, a sepoy—son of Ahman Goojur, who had mutinied  
 and come from Meruth made resistance, and that Lachman  
 Bhartee, *cheta* of Nychal Bhartee, after which he was himself  
 killed by that gentleman. Mr. Turnbull also took and brought  
 into the Gunj at Secundrabad, the carts loaded with sugar,  
 which the Goojurs had looted and taken to their villages.  
 On that day when these gentlemen went away again to Raj-  
 poor, and on seeing the Goojurs assembled at Dabegurh and  
 Rampoor, took them prisoners, and put them into jail at  
 Bulundshuhur. We also heard that on the way the men of  
 Rajpoor Kullan (Rajpur Kalan) wished to rescue the pri-  
 soners, but were unable to do it. Afterwards, the Goojurs of  
 the several villages of Deotah and Tal, assembled at Cheetee  
 with the intention of releasing them from the jail. Umran  
 Singh Goojur who used to call himself Raja during the dis-  
 turbances, and the Goojurs of Utteh and Gennah, etc. and  
 many of the *Girooas* of Weyer, Mehseh, Bhaura etc. assembled  
 there (Cheetee), went to Bulundshuhur, and released the  
 above named prisoners, and all the *Chakidars* of the town,  
 together with the Goojurs of Hirdeypoor, Setlee etc. plundered  
 the sugar carts in the Gunj. The ring-leaders among the  
*Chokidars* of Ranowlee, Nawul *Chakidar* of Pempoor, Sibba, Ram-  
 sahace, and Bhawra; inhabitants of Khulgonabas and Tota,  
 and Jehangeera inhabitants of the town of Secundrabad.  
 Soon after, the mutinied Regiment came from Allygurh and  
 Bulundshuhur, and looted the *lahseel* and treasury, and upset  
 the local authorities, and all the Goojurs who had been taken  
 into service, went away with one accord, and about this time,  
 four-five hundred men came from Khugoonabas intending to

<sup>1</sup> Sentence incomplete.

Tilbegumpoor<sup>1</sup>, Dadree, etc., in order to loot Secundrah<sup>2</sup> so that the beams and rafters should not be left.

About this time, the rebel Walcedad had been appointed ...<sup>3</sup> at Delhi, and came to Dadree<sup>4</sup>, and there encouraged the Goojurs to rebel and loot. Accordingly on the 31st May 1857, the Goojurs and Giroas and Rajpoots, assembled to the number of about twenty thousand, and first set fire to the weavers Mohullah, and killed a great number of men and wounded others. The whole Mohullah was looted; on the 1st June '57 they looted the Bazaar of Madho Das, Mohullah Hurree, and Sarowgcewalah, and part of Cazeewalah (Qaziwala) and set fire to my Sarace (Sarat), which was on the road; the bhuttiaras fled. When it was difficult for us to stay, and we saw that we would be killed and saw no chance of escape, then I with the inhabitants of the Mohullah, male and female, fled in a state of uncertainty, abandoned property, to Mauzah... (Mss. torn at this place)... Chunderuh<sup>5</sup> together with the Tahseeldar and Cotwal and both Resaldars, and the police officers whom I, as a loyal subject, had received in my house. Kalloo zemindar of Cheeter, Pir Buksh Khan etc., zemindars of Tilbegumpoor, the zemindars of Ludpoora, Kumsen etc., inhabitants of Salempoor<sup>6</sup>, Luchman etc., inhabitants of Rampore, Febteh (not clear

<sup>1</sup> Tilbegumpur, Pargana and Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village lying three-and-a-half miles north-west of Sikandarabad, between the Grand Trunk Road and the road from Sikandarabad to Surajpur. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 313).

<sup>2</sup> Perhaps it may be 'Naib' or 'Subah'.

<sup>3</sup> Dadri, Pargana Dadri, Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—The capital of the pargana is a large village on the west side of the Grand Trunk Road, at a distance of 22 miles from Delhi, eleven miles from Sikandarabad and 22 miles from Bulandshahr. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 215).

<sup>4</sup> Apparently Chaudhera, Pargana Pahasu, Tahsil Khurja, District Bulandshahr—A large village in the east of the pargana between the Dibai boundary and the Kali Nadi, which skirts the village on the west. About a mile to the east of the main site runs the metalled road from Aligarh to Anupshahr. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, p. 212).

<sup>5</sup> Apparently Salempur, Pargana and Tahsil Hathras, District Aligarh—A village in the extreme east of the pargana, standing in 27° 38' N. and 28° 12' E., on the north side of the provincial road from Muttra to Kanganj, about eleven miles from Hathras, 19 from Aligarh and three miles west from Rati-ka-Nagla station on the Cawnpore-Achnera line. (*District Gazetteers*, Aligarh, Vol. VI, 1909, p. 286).

of Saonlee and they gave about 350 Rupees. About this time three or four parties of mutineers passed through, and killed every Goojur they met on the road-side; the rebels from fear of the mutineers, who were said to be coming every day, or from desire of going, abstained from plundering several days. At length, on the 17th June 1857, the rebels above named, and the Gahlot Rajpoots, made an attack, broke open the doors of the houses and other buildings, began to plunder, and the inhabitants of those *Muhallahs* unable to resist them, ran whichever way they were looking. The ringleaders of the Gahlot Rajpoots were Hurdial Singh, Deedar Singh of Nugla Samanah, Phool Singh of Parsseh *zh.* Meruth (Meerut), and the men of Kalowndeh and Bajherch were there in great numbers and the next day the Khuttreewalah *Muhallah* was also looted, and the town was ruined and desolate, and the rebels above named continued for two or three months digging out and carrying away the rafters and door parts and doors, and in the search for ornaments etc. pulled down and ruined all the houses, and the villagers along the roads are also guilty of the highway robberies on the roads but the *zemindar* of Lalpoor which is on the edge of the road to Bulundshuhur looted on the roads and pressed the passers-by so hard, that they did not leave the shoes on their feet, or caps on their heads; they took all the goods and money worth taking. Besides these villages, the men of the following villages robbed on the roads to the utmost, and plundered the passers-by : Zoukabad, Nugla Chamrao, Kot, Saonlee, Jowlee<sup>1</sup>, Myndours<sup>2</sup>, Dyanugar, Pir Bayabane, Khugooabas, Nayabas in the neighbourhood of Secundrabad, Fareedpoor.<sup>3</sup>

\* \* \*

<sup>1</sup> Jauli, Pargana Jauli Jansath, Tahsil Jansath, District Muzaffarnagar—A large and important village on the left bank of the Ganges Canal in the north of the pargana, at a distance of six miles from Jansath and nine miles from Muzaffarnagar, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road. (*District Gazetteers*, Muzaffarnagar, Vol. III, 1903, p. 259).

<sup>2</sup> Apparently Mandaula, Pargana Loni, Tahsil Ghaziabad, District Meerut—A considerable village in the north of the pargana on the unmetalled road from Shahdara and Loni to Baghpat, situated in latitude 28° 45' north and longitude 77° 17' east, at a distance of five miles north of Loni and four miles south of Khekra. (*District Gazetteers*, Meerut, Vol. IV, 1922, p. 268).

<sup>3</sup> Bulandshahr Collectorate Mutiny Basta.

# **FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN UTTAR PRADESH**

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**VOLUME V**

**Western Districts and Rohilkhand  
1857-59**

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